

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration in view of the previous amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-8 are pending. By this Amendment claims 1, 5, 7 and 8 are amended. Support for the amendment to claim 1 can be found at least at paragraph [0021] of Applicants' as-filed specification.

Applicants appreciate the indication that claims 4, 7 and 8 contain allowable subject matter.

Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to initial and return the PTO 1449 filed October 10, 2008. A copy is attached hereto for the Examiner's convenience.

The Office Action objects to the specification. The Abstract is amended to address the Examiner's concerns. The specification is also amended to correct an obvious typographical error.

The Office Action objects to claim 1. Claim1 is amended to address the Examiner's objection.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-4 under 35 U.S.C. §112 second paragraph. Claim 1 is amended to address the Examiner's concerns. Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-4 under 35 U.S.C. §112 second paragraph is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-3, 5, 6 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over JP 03-111694. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicants' independent claim 1 recites, in combination with other claimed features, the plurality of concave portions or convex portions are arranged on at least a leading end of a stabilizer on an upstream side of a gas stream relative to a projection and so as to disturb the gas stream flowing along the opposing surface. Such a feature encompasses Applicants' exemplary embodiment as illustrated in Fig. 2 wherein grooves 12e are formed on leading end 12d of stabilizer 12.

JP '694 discloses a stabilizer 6 including stabilizer pockets 7. The stabilizer pockets 7 are not formed on a leading edge of the stabilizer 6. Thus, claim 1 is distinguishable over JP '694.

Applicants' independent claim 5 recites, in combination with other claimed features, the projections are formed by juxtaposing a plurality of projections extending in a direction intersecting the gas stream flowing along the opposing surface at an inclination angle.

JP '694 discloses the stabilizer pockets are substantially aligned with the gas stream. Thus, claim 5 is distinguishable over JP '694.

The dependent claims are allowable for at least the reasons discussed above as well as for the individual features they recite. Withdrawal of the rejection of the dependent claims is respectfully requested.

Prompt and favorable examination on the merits is respectfully requested. In the event any questions arise in connection with the application or should the

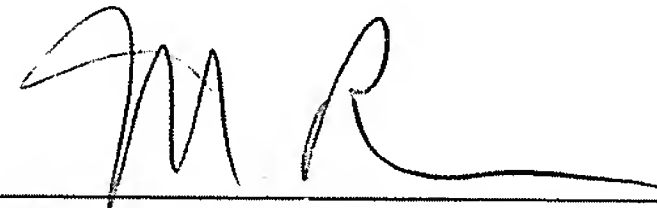
Examiner believe that a telephone conference with the undersigned would be helpful in resolving any remaining issues pertaining to this application, the undersigned respectfully requests that he be contacted at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

BUCHANAN INGERSOLL PC

Date: December 1, 2008

By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'M R' followed by a horizontal line.

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